

Chacko blocks, which are already a part of sanctuary, into a National Park.

(b) No cost is involved in the proposal since it is only a change in legal status of these forests under the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(c) As per the information provided by the State Government, a statement is enclosed. However, $\pm 10\%$ variation in the estimated population is always possible since track census is done for the other wild species.

Statement

S.No.	Name of the Species	1989	1993	1994	1995	1996
1.	Tiger	33	29	-	31	-
2.	Leopards	-	63	-	70	-
3.	Elephants	-	85	86	-	-
4.	Gaur	-	-	192	335	360
5.	Barking Deer	-	-	978	955	1000
6.	Hog Deer	-	-	157	120	200
7.	Spotted Deer	-	-	498	515	575
8.	Sambhar	-	-	108	80	100
9.	Mongoose	-	-	142	320	350
10.	Porcupine	-	-	14	35	50
11.	Wild Boar	-	-	2719	2700	3000
12.	Monkeys	-	-	12581	22250	24000
13.	Peacocks	-	-	1975	2600	2800
14.	Jungle Fowls	-	-	2056	5650	6000

National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority

4723. SHRI MANGAT RAM SHARMA : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have approved the proposal for commissioning of National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) and National Drug Authority (NDA);

(b) if so the details thereof; and

(c) the criteria fixed for the appointment of Chairman and other members of these agencies?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) to (c) Modifications in Drug Policy, 1986, announced in September, 1984 provide for setting up of an Independent body of experts called National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority to do the work of price fixation of drugs. There is also a provision for setting up a National Drug Authority which will inter-alia, define standards, enforce quality and monitor prescribing practices. The criteria for appointment of various functionaries in NPPA/NDA will differ from posts to posts.

Water Quality Monitoring Programme

4724. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the World Wild Fund for Nature has launched a country-wide Water Quality Monitoring Programme termed "River Watch" in India to sensitise people about the deteriorating water quality in different rivers of the country and also to invite participation of school students in creating awareness; and

(b) if so, the main features and objectives of this programme and the extent of which it has been successful?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ) : (a) Yes Sir.

(b) The 'River Watch' is a participatory environmental education programme initiated in November, 1996 to enlighten the community about the deteriorating water quality of the rivers. Under phase-I of this programme, 100 km stretch of river Yamuna has been chosen for water quality monitoring since the river is threatened by various sources of pollution.

Objective: The programme is aimed at involving schools, and the community for improving the water quality of the rivers.

Main features of the Programme

Ten schools in and around Delhi have been selected to participate in the programme which involves:

- Identification of river stretches for study;
- Holding training workshops for using the water pollution monitoring kit developed by WWF;
- Processing of data;
- Dissemination of information through media.

The phase I of the programme is yet to be completed for assessment of the success of the programme.